

COUNTRY GERMANY	REPORT NO. 56A-D-5691-B		(LEAVE BLANK)
FROM (Agency) 7050 AHSW (USAF)			
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
SUBJECT Western Nationals in Prison in BAUTZEN		PAGE 11	OF 15 PAGES
AREA REPORTED ON BAUTZEN SZG	DATE OF INFORMATION 18 to 20 Sep 54	FROM (Agency) 7050 AHSW (USAF)	EVALUATION P-6
DATE OF REPORT 18 to 20 Sep 54	DATE OF INFORMATION Oct 53 to Apr 54	EVALUATION P-6	
PREPARED BY (Officer) CLOVER F. ASHLEY, Lt Col, USAF	SOURCE 246347		
REFERENCES (Control number, direction, previous report, etc., as applicable)			
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List enclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)			
I. PREAMBLE: S, a German civilian, served a two (2) year penitentiary term in two (2) prisons in BAUTZEN (5111N1426E) from Sep 52 to Apr 54. Mainly during the period from Oct 53 to Apr 54 S had opportunity to get acquainted with nationals from Western nations, partly while working with them. But chiefly while staying in the same prison cell. Info is partly based on S's own observations, but mostly S had to rely upon the info which he gained in conversation with these Western nationals, or what they said about each other. II. WESTERN NATIONALS IN BAUTZEN PRISON: Ref is made to incl # 1, this report, Overlay of GSGS 4414, First Edition AMS, GERMANY 1:25,000, Sheet 4852, BAUTZEN (5111N1426E), pts of which will be explained in the following narrative. Largest period of his penitentiary term S stayed in "Prison II", designated with pt 1. Entire complex was officially called "JUSTIZPALAST" (Palace of Justice). Various agencies were housed in the U-shaped main bldg. In the most SE wing (four (4) storied) was a Soviet barracks, occupied by about eighty (80) to 100 Soviet soldiers. S had impression that there was a training unit. Soldiers stayed about three (3) months, and were mainly trained in sports and close fight. Then, new soldiers arrived. Other parts of bldg contained a state surveying office, a registrar's office, a court for minor crimes, and headquarters of traffic police. All prison guards were of people's police. Number of prisoners fluctuated between 300 to 350. Most contact with Western nationals were made in this prison by S. The other prison in town, called "PRISON I", is designated with pt 2. Because of its yellow brick constr it was called "GELBES ELENDE" (Yellow Misery). Main bldg complex was cross-shaped. Aside from prison there was a hospital, a tuberculosis bldg, boiler house, kitchen and church; in addition several wooden barracks for prisoners with short-range prison terms. In about Mar 1954 wooden barracks were evacuated from prisoners, and unknown machinery was installed, where prisoners worked. This workshop department was located in an extra enclosure, surrounded by another wall than prison complex. S, however, did not think that there were some secret activities in workshops, because prisoners of main prison could visit these barracks when they received a permit slip. Not far from "PRISON II", pt 1, was Club house, pt 3. It was generally known that this club house was occupied by roughly thirty (30) Western nationals, who were deserted soldiers and had been given political asylum. Not all lived here, some had private quarters in town. However, this club house was the center of these Western nationals. They received meals, clothing and funds here, and were also given advice how to get a job. Western nationals were restricted to town area, and they had been given a limited identification card, valid only for BAUTZEN and its 1. INCLS. He also wanted to return to ENGLAND and rather serve a prison term there Overlay of BAUTZEN P. 15. S met a French national, who was in same prison cell as S. According to the Frenchman's own statements his name was MICHAUD, first name René. According to his statements he was a lieutenant in the medical corps (not a physician). S and his fellow prisoners doubted it, and rather assumed that he had been a patient attendant. This was partly proven by the fact that MICHAUD had received the position of a hospital attendant in a civilian hospital in BAUTZEN prior to his arrest and imprisonment. MICHAUD claimed to have been stationed in the "QUARTIER NAPOLEON" in BERLIN prior to his desertion. According to his statement he had deserted, because he was to be transferred to FRANCE INDOCHINA, to be			

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Authority *MM 974352*
By *WV* NARA Date *9/4/61*

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) 7050 AISW (USAFE)	REPORT NO. 56A-D-5691-B	PAGE 12	OF 15	PAGES
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immediate vicinity (probably ten (10) km in diameter around town). As far as S knew, Moroccan, American, French and English nationals lived here. Although club house was officially under E-German administration, it was a "public secret" that it was actually ran by the Soviets. These facts were learned by S from a British and a French national.

Although these Western nationals had a preferential treatment, they missed a lot of things they were used to in their home countries. Thus, it happened that they got in conflict with the law, especially by stealing. Therefore, they were tried and sentenced to prison terms and thus S could get in contact with some of them. The consequence of the law-breaking would normally be, that these Western nationals had forfeited their right of political asylum, and would have to be expelled to their home countries upon having served their term. Soviet officials came into prison and talked to the Western prisoners. They wanted that the Western nationals would promise a good conduct for the future, otherwise they would have to be expelled. The reaction among the prisoners was different. Some of them rather wanted to be in prison in their home country (two Englishmen) than live as a semi-free citizen in SOVZONE OF GERMANY. Another prisoner (a French national) did not want an extradition and promised good conduct. S was even of the opinion that some Western nationals might commit a petty crime, to get a penalty and a subsequent extradition.

In prison II, pt 1, S got acquainted with two (2) British soldiers. One (1) of them indicated his name with IRVINE, first name Richard. This was the Western national, with whom S got best acquainted. Since IRVINE spoke only poor German, S conducted conversations in English, and S's knowledge of English was fairly well. IRVINE stated that his address was GLASGOW (5551NO415E), SPRINGBURN NORTH, BARCAPLE STREET # 40. IRVINE was twenty-one (21) to twenty-two (22) years old in 1954. He had been attached to a Scottish regiment in BERLIN (5231N1324E) and was a driver. IRVINE had gotten drunk in the club of his barracks. Then, he was contacted by another Scotchman, who suggested to have another drink at another place. Both soldiers climbed over the fence of their barracks, and somehow fell into the hands of a People's Police patrol. Probably for fear of penalty IRVINE asked for political asylum in SZG; according to IRVINE's statement which appeared to be reliable to S. During his "free" stay in BAUTZEN, another British soldier had stolen cigarettes, and IRVINE was accused to have smoked of these stolen cigarettes, and subsequently sentenced to one (1) year and six (6) months of prison. He came to the same cell as S. IRVINE preferred rather to stay in a British prison than to live here. IRVINE had a great longing for his home country. He counted the days up to the time his term would be over, and hoped for a repatriation. S definitely had the impression that IRVINE was not a criminal character. Although a kind of adventurer, he was a "good comrade". He was very much liked by the (predominantly political) German co-prisoners. - While getting acquainted with IRVINE, S met another British soldier, however, did not have so close contact with him as with IRVINE. His name was SMITH, first name John; having lived in SOUTH WALES. Was a deserted soldier for an unknown reason, and had been given political asylum. While living "free" in BAUTZEN, SMITH had stolen cigarettes, was arrested, tried and sentenced to one (1) year and nine (9) months of prison. SMITH was of same age as IRVINE, SMITH had been a miner prior to joining the army. SMITH was quiet and refrained from making contacts. He also wanted to return to ENGLAND and rather serve a prison term there. Also in "PRISON II", pt 1, S met a French national, who was in same prison cell as S. According to the Frenchman's own statements his name was MICHAUD, first name René. According to his statements he was a lieutenant in the medical corps (not a physician). S and his fellow prisoners doubted it, and rather assumed that he had been a patient attendant. This was partly proven by the fact that MICHAUD had received the position of a hospital attendant in a civilian hospital in BAUTZEN prior to his arrest and imprisonment. MICHAUD claimed to have been stationed in the "QUARTIER NAPOLEON" in BERLIN prior to his desertion. According to his statement he had deserted, because he was to be transferred to FRENCH INDOCHINA, to be

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
7050 AISW (USAFE)	56A-D-5691-B	13	15	

employed in war action. As he said, he denounced this war, and therefore deserted to SZG. MICHAUD was estimated to be twenty-seven (27) years old. While in BAUTZEN, MICHAUD had broken into the quarters of another deserted Frenchman, and had stolen liquor, and had been sentenced to about one (1) year of prison. MICHAUD himself claimed that he had had quarrels with a People's Policeman, and had knocked him down. When a prison official once came into the cell, where MICHAUD stayed with S, and asked for which crime MICHAUD had been sentenced, MICHAUD had to tell the truth. For this and other reasons MICHAUD was not liked by his fellow inmates, and suspected to be a dubious character. S and his fellow prisoners strongly suspected that he had turned SSD (State Security Department) informer. Aside from his French (native tongue) MICHAUD spoke German very well, although with a slight flaw, and Spanish excellent. According to MICHAUD his father had been a member of the French resistance movement during WW II and had been killed by the Germans. MICHAUD claimed that he had also been a member of the resistance movement. He stated that he had one (1) older, married sister, and a younger, single sister, both in PARIS (4851N 0220E). Reason, prisoners suspected MICHAUD to be an informer, became evident in S's experiences with an American national, as discussed later in this report. Also, S was warned by fellow prisoners, when MICHAUD was put into S's cell, to take care and beware. MICHAUD was probably released later than S. In Jun 54 S met MICHAUD in DRESDEN (5103N1345E). In Jun 54 S received a telephone call from MICHAUD. This was several days after the plebiscite against the European Defense Community (EDC) and for the unity of GERMANY in SZG. MICHAUD wanted to meet S in a DRESDEN restaurant, name "RATSKELLER LOSCHWITZ". When S met MICHAUD there, MICHAUD said that he had been released from BAUTZEN prison, had been taken by the Soviets to LEIPZIG (5118N1220E), where he was publicly presented as a deserted officer of the French Army, and MICHAUD had made public speeches against the European Defence Community and for the conclusion of a peace treaty with GERMANY, as well as for a termination of the war in INDOCHINA. MICHAUD said he was in transit here, but did not give destination. In this restaurant were two (2) SSD-agents during the meeting. One (1) S knew by name (see report C), and the other one (1) he knew from seeing. These agents, however, did not interfere at all. The conversation was further concerned about life in BAUTZEN prison, and lasted about one and one-half (1½) hour. MICHAUD had ordered food and beverages, and the bill was fifty (50) DM (East). MICHAUD excused himself and went to the rest room, disappeared, and not seen again. Somebody else, also a former German prisoner of BAUTZEN prison, paid the bill. This ex-prisoner said that MICHAUD had left a briefcase with some belongings with him, and he would have adequate coverage for the money he had paid for him. In BAUTZEN prison S became acquainted with another person, who claimed to be a US citizen. His name was KRAMER (or CRAMER), first name Nikolaus. His birth date (easily remembered by S, because was same year of S's birth), was 2 Jan 1928. He claimed that he was born in PHILADELPHIA (4408N7539W), and had been a student of chemistry. He did never say that he had been a soldier; or had deserted. Probably in 1951 KRAMER had somehow illegally come to SZG; allegedly to visit his aunt. As he stated, he was arrested; and at that opportunity a wire cutter (a kind of pliers) adequate to cut wire under high tension of up to about 2,000 Volts, was found on him. As KRAMER pointed out, he was kept as a prisoner on trial by Soviets and SSD authorities for two and one-half (2½) years. He was accused to be suspected of espionage. KRAMER explained the possession of the wire cutter with the fact that he wanted to cut dry branches from trees, so that he did not have to lie on the naked soil while sleeping in the open. Authorities had investigated the story about his aunt, but it turned out that his statements had been wrong; at any case, aunt could not be located under the indicated name or address. Eventually, charges on espionage were dropped, and KRAMER was tried and sentenced to a high penalty. He received three and one-half (3½) years of prison for illegal border crossing; an unusual high term according to SOVZONE Law Code. KRAMER had gone on hunger strike three (3) times. With his German fellow prisoners, KRAMER spoke a broken German with strong American accent, but S suspected that KRAMER only simulated, and could speak

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) 7050 AISW (USAF)	REPORT NO. 56A-D-5691-B	PAGE 14	OF 15	PAGES
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German very well. KRAMER took books from the prison library which required perfect knowledge of the German language, such as books by GOETHE, HEINE, and other renowned writers. The above mentioned British soldiers, IRVINE and SMITH, said to S that KRAMER's English was very poor, and that he spoke German better than English. Although prison management treated him as an American citizen, this was not fully believed. When S met MICHAUD in DRESDEN in Jun 54, MICHAUD said that KRAMER had been released from prison and had been given asylum in club house, pt 3, in BAUTZEN. S suspected that KRAMER was possibly an SSD-Agent. Allegedly, KRAMER was not allowed to write letters at all, while being in prison. S was not in the same cell with him. When S was in prison, he was charged with issuing of food and cleaning of part of hallways. At this opportunity KRAMER contacted S, and asked if he would take a slip with addresses, and notify these people when S was released from prison. S promised to do so, but had not yet gotten the slip. The same evening S was fired from his job, and bodily searched. Now, the question arose in S's mind, whether KRAMER had denounced S, or MICHAUD, who was in the same cell with S. Some time later, the same problem was encountered by S. The prisoner, who succeeded S in his duties, laid a slip on the table in S's cell. Slip contained three (3) addresses, one (1) in GERMANY, one (1) in AUSTRIA, and one (1) in US, written by KRAMER. The US address was partly recalled by S. It was the address of a doctor for female diseases, C. WALTER, NEW YORK (5053N7401W). A fellow prisoner then warned S that he would be called to the manager of prison pretty soon. S tore slip apart and threw it into a toilet bowl. S was then called to director of prison. Director accused S that he had received a slip from the US national KRAMER, via above mentioned fellow prisoner. Slip had lain on table, and three (3) addresses had been on slip. S could not deny it. Director threatened S with a penalty, and requested S not to aid prisoners. Here was the question again, whether MICHAUD or KRAMER had informed the director about this affair. It was generally known that MICHAUD, who also spoke English very well, often saw director of prison. Director of Prison II, pt 1, was HENTSCHE; title "OBERKOMMISSAR" (Chief police officer); considered to be a Communist criminal. When in Jul 53 thirty (30) prisoners escaped while working on an airfield, two (2) of them KOEHLER, first name Horst; and SCHNABEL, Hermann, were shot and killed; and HENTSCHE could be blamed responsible for this, because guards did not aim at the legs, but at the bodies of the escaping prisoners (One was hit in the head, the other one in the neck). Another club house, location unknown, in BAUTZEN, sheltered Greek girls, from sixteen (16) to nineteen (19) years of age, probably children of Greek Communists. According to hearsay girls attended a constr academy, and were said to be constr engineers upon completion of their studies.

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